



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

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GAIL FARBER, Director

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:
P.O. BOX 1460
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91802-1460

June 29, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#35 JUNE 29, 2010

Sachi A. Hamai
SACHI A. HAMAI
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

CONSULTANT SERVICE AGREEMENTS FOR AS-NEEDED BUILDING AND SAFETY PLAN CHECK AND RELATED SERVICES (ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

This action will replace existing Board-approved consultant service agreements for as-needed building and safety plan check and related services to meet anticipated private and County Capital Project workloads.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Award and authorize the Director of Public Works or her designee, to execute consultant service agreements with Bureau Veritas North America, Inc., Interwest Consulting Group, JAS Pacific, Inc., J Lee Engineering, Inc., Transtech Engineers, Inc., VCA Code Group, and Willdan Engineering to provide as-needed building and safety plan check and related services for a five-year term. The consultant service agreements fees shall not exceed an aggregate total of \$7 million.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of the recommended action is to provide the Department of Public Works (Public Works) with as-needed building and safety plan check and other related services associated with private sector building construction and County Capital Projects. The consultant service agreements will provide Public Works with the ability to expand staffing levels and the breadth of available technical expertise in order to meet customer service expectations and Capital Project schedules during peak workload periods.

The selected consultants were determined to be qualified to provide the as-needed building and safety plan check services. However, each of these firms have various specialty engineering areas of expertise such as structural, mechanical, electrical, and fire/life safety code knowledge. In order to provide Public Works with the flexibility to utilize the consultant it deems most suitable, given the scope of the needed services, the capacity of each consultant service agreement shall not exceed \$7 million. The combined fees of the consultant service agreements fees shall not exceed an aggregate total of \$7 million.

The term of the consultant service agreements will be for a period of five years commencing on the date of the initial Notice to Proceed.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The Countywide Strategic Plan directs the provision of Organizational Effectiveness (Goal 1) through the use of as-needed consultant service agreements to provide timely delivery of customer-oriented and efficient public services.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no impact to the County General Fund. Funds to finance the contract term will be requested through the annual budget process. This cost will be reimbursed by funds from fees for services. Total expenditures for this service, however, will not exceed the amount approved by your Board of Supervisors (Board), and no service will be ordered without the funding authorization of Public Works' Financial Management Branch.

The total program cost of the seven as-needed consultant service agreements is for an aggregate not-to-exceed fee of \$7 million for the five-year term. Should additional work be required that exceeds the amount authorized, we will return to your Board for approval of additional funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

A standard consultant service agreement, in the form previously approved by County Counsel, will be used. The standard Board-directed clauses that provide for termination, renegotiation, and hiring of qualified displaced County employees will be included.

The consultant service agreement will contain terms and conditions supporting your Board's ordinances, policies, and programs including, but not limited to County's Greater Avenues for Independence and General Relief Opportunities for Work Programs (GAIN/GROW), Board Policy No. 5.050; Contract Language to Assist in Placement of Displaced County Workers, Board Policy No. 5.110; Reporting of Improper Solicitations, Board Policy No. 5.060; Notice to Contract Employees of Newborn Abandonment Law (Safely Surrender Baby Law), Board Policy No. 5.135; Contractor Employee Jury Service Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.203; Notice to Employees regarding the Federal Earned Income Credit (Federal Income Tax Law, Internal Revenue Service Notice 1015); Contractor Responsibility and Debarment, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.202; and the Los Angeles County's Child Support Compliance Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.200; Defaulted Property Tax Reduction Program, Los Angeles County Code, Chapter 2.206; and the standard Board-directed clauses that provide for contract termination or renegotiation.

The consultant service agreements include a cost-of-living adjustment provision in accordance with

your Board policy, which was approved on January 29, 2002.

ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION

The proposed consultant service agreements are not a project pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is an activity that is excluded from the definition of a project by Section 15378(b) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CEQA Guidelines). The proposed actions are an administrative activity of the government, which will not result in direct or indirect changes to the environment.

CONTRACTING PROCESS

On December 17, 2009, Public Works issued a Request for Proposal to 76 firms. A total of 21 firms responding to the proposals by the January 7, 2010, deadline. An evaluation committee consisting of Public Works' Building and Safety Division's civil, electrical, and structural engineering technical staff evaluated the proposals. The evaluation of the firms was based on technical expertise, proposed work plan, experience, personnel qualifications, and understanding of the work requirements. Evaluations were completed without regard to race, creed, color, age, or gender.

Based on the review and evaluation of the proposals, the evaluation committee recommended Bureau Veritas North America, Inc., Interwest Consulting Group, JAS Pacific, Inc., J Lee Engineering, Inc., Transtech Engineers, Inc., VCA Code Group, and Willdan Engineering as the best qualified firms to perform the required services.

As requested by your Board on February 3, 1998, and to further increase consultant awareness of contracting opportunities with Public Works, the proposal for these services was posted on the County's Doing Business With Us website. A copy of the website posting is enclosed.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no impact on current County services during the performance of the recommended consultant services.

CONCLUSION

Please return one adopted copy of this letter to the Department of Public Works, Building and Safety Division.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

6/29/2010

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gail Farber".

GAIL FARBER

Director

GF:RP:ll

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Office
County Counsel
Executive Office

Bid Detail Information**Bid Number :** ANBSPC1209**Bid Title :** AS-NEEDED BUILDING AND SAFETY PLAN CHECK AND RELATED SERVICES**Bid Type :** Service**Department :** Public Works**Commodity :** CONSULTING SERVICES - ENGINEERING**Open Date :** 12/17/2009**Closing Date :** 1/7/2010 3:00 PM**Bid Amount :** \$ 0.00**Bid Download :** Not Available

Bid Description : The services to be provided by the Consultant shall consist of performing any or all of the following types of plan review: architectural, structural, grading, drainage, low impact development, mechanical, plumbing, disabled access, electrical, energy conservation, and green building. The as-needed plan check and related services that the Consultant will provide shall be in compliance with applicable county, state and federal building laws, ordinances, regulations, and any applicable standards related to development, construction, and building. Plan review services may be required for public and private projects.

The Consultant plan check services shall be performed by licensed professional engineers (State of California), or International Conference of Building Officials (ICBO)/International Code Council (ICC) certified plan reviewers under the direction of an appropriately licensed professional engineer with extensive experience and training in his/her specialized field as shown below. Structural Plan Check shall be performed by a Registered Professional Structural Engineer. The Consultant's personnel performing work under this contract must have prior approval of the Superintendent of Building and the Consultant shall warrant that the individual will perform the following tasks as needed.

- Architectural Plan Review
- Title-24 Energy Plan Review
- Mechanical/Plumbing Engineering Plan Review
- Structural Engineering Plan Review
- Electrical Engineering Plan Review
- Civil Engineering Plan Review (grading, drainage, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), and Standard Urban Stormwater Management Plan (SUSMP), Low Impact Development, Hydromodification)
- Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Compliance Review
- Green Building Plan Review

For grading plans, the Consultant shall verify the number of cubic yards graded. For electrical, mechanical, and plumbing plan review, the Consultant shall verify the itemized list of installed devices as shown on the appropriate application.

For green building plan review, the Consultant shall verify green building features against County requirements and/or third-party standards as determined by the County. Verification shall include, but not be limited to, green building features checked against third-party scorecards or checklists for compliance and certification level.

All interested proposer, please e-mail the contact person listed below and RFP will be e-mailed back to you. Questions regarding the project should also be submitted via email to the contact person listed below. Thank you.

Contact Name : Loydi Nguyen**Contact Phone# :** (626) 458-2180**Contact Email :** nguyen@dpw.lacounty.gov**Last Changed On :** 12/17/2009 5:06:47 PM[Back to Last Window](#)